

PURSUING MORE SUGAR MEN

INDIVIDUAL REFINERS EXPECTED TO PAY UP TOO.

Report That Trust Would Be Reconstituted—Government Official Says National Office \$500,000—Arbuckle's Talks of Pirates and Havemeyer.

It was learned yesterday that certain individual sugar refiners besides minor companies are to be invited to pay up back duties to the Government, and the trust and the Arbuckle have done and the National Sugar Refining Company is to do.

The majority of individual importers do not pay the duty themselves. They leave it to the seller and it is figured in on the price of the sugar. But some of them pay the duty, and it is these men that Prosecutors Henry L. Stimson and Winifred T. Denison are after. There are four or five importers involved, all of whom have benefited considerably from the practice of skimming the Government by underweighing. One of the biggest sugar corporation executives in New York told *The Sun* yesterday that the individual importers concerned have been doing exactly as the big refiners have done and benefiting in exactly the same way—getting the best of the weights by from two to thirty-five pounds on every thousand.

Shortly after Stimson and Denison went to the books of the American Sugar Refining Company, which covered that the Government could claim \$500,000 in forfeits and stolen duties. Only it on the fact that the Arbuckle and the National had been favored in weighing by the Government weighers. The practice seemed to them to have been general that they went after the individual importers. They discovered exactly what they were looking for—that the books of four or five of these importers showed extraordinary discrepancies in the weights. It was said yesterday that the individual importers still get the same chance to square themselves with the Government that the sugar trust and the Arbuckle got.

TRUST DIRECTORS MAY BE RETIRED.

The sugar district heard yesterday that President Washington B. Thomas of the American Sugar Refining Company, who succeeded the late Henry O. Havemeyer, is going to make a pretty thorough housecleaning. More than two directors are to go on the board in January. The refiners have heard that things are not so peaceful in the company between Mr. Thomas and the directors in sympathy with his aims and the directors who were associated with the old regime in the management. They heard that the directors will be given the opportunity to resign and that John F. Parsons, who has resigned as general counsel, will resign also as a director. There is a pretty distinct impression among the sugar men that the retiring directors will be those who were indicted for conspiracy in the case of the Pennsylvania Refining Company, the Regal Company, the American Sugar Refining Company, and the American Sugar Refining Company. The annual meeting will be held on the third Wednesday of January.

NATIONAL SAID TO OFFER \$500,000.

The National Sugar Refining Company, whose books are being audited by the Treasury, has lost in ten years of sugar underweighing, has made an offer to settle \$500,000 according to an official estimate familiar with the work of the Treasury. He told *The Sun* yesterday that the offer had been made to Henry L. Stimson and Winifred T. Denison, the Government's special counsel, and that Mr. Stimson and Mr. Denison are holding back with the idea that a completed examination of the books may show that \$750,000 or more be obtained. The Government is carrying on one investigation of the National's books and the National's experts at work on a separate set of estimates. In ten years the National imported about 4,000 cargoes, averaging about 400 a year. It was learned yesterday that the Government's experts are not satisfied with the books deeply enough to satisfy themselves that the company owes upward of \$700,000. But President James H. Post of the company denies that the amount is large. His experts have covered importations for two years of the ten and have made out, on an estimate from the results, so Mr. Post said yesterday, an amount due to the Government of from \$200,000 to \$300,000. He said, though, that the company has not completed its estimates.

THE RISING BEAM.

Mr. Post could not believe that anybody connected with his company had been guilty of deliberate fraud. He thought that the sugar trust and the Arbuckle had National has enjoyed for ten years a close about naturally through the friendship of Government weighers with dock employees. He said that the Government's fact that the weighers always were and sugar companies the advantage of a "rising beam." In the course of ten years a slight difference in weight between what a rising beam would show and what a falling beam would give might easily amount, he thought, to \$300,000, perhaps \$1,000,000.

The fact is, said Mr. Post, "that the Government weighers always gave the sugar trust the advantage of a rising beam, which meant a few pounds here and there, and naturally they got in the habit of treating other sugar concerns in the same way. Then too the Government weighers are usually pretty friendly with the sugar employees, and they are anxious to let them make a good showing with their bosses. It is very easy by these two reasons to account for the Government's estimates. They are not to be over. We have been open and above-board in all our transactions."

Mr. Post added that when he said on Wednesday that the Government's estimate was approximately what Arbuckle Bros. had paid he did not mean to be understood that the National owed \$700,000. "Such enormous sums," he said, "are not so important as it would be in lesser businesses. He was presenting merely, he said, the company's incomplete estimates. He didn't know what figures Mr. Stimson might have."

The customs official who informed *The Sun* that the National Sugar Refining Company had made an offer of \$500,000 to settle its back duties, said that the offer was made in a very friendly way and that the Government's figures were thoroughly fair.

JOHN ARBUCKLE ON PIRATES.

John Arbuckle said yesterday that he is working on a statement which will be his personal explanation of the underweighing of Arbuckle Bros.' sugar importations.

"My affairs are clear in this matter," said he, "but you can understand that the refiners are very nervous and that the others who are not so fortunate are involved." He said that in fairness to the other men spoken of he could not discuss the matters pending the publication of his statement.

Of other matters Mr. Arbuckle was willing to talk. He told of his inheritance of the American Sugar Refining Company, said the foundation of his fortune.

West Indies

3 CRUISES FROM NEW YORK

January 22, February 22, March 22, 1910.

By S.S. MOLTRE (12,000 tons), largest steamer ever sent to Caribbean.

\$45.00 & \$150.00

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THE MODERN WOMAN

FELTOLD CASTERS AND TIPS

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